

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 9, 2004

The regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Commission for Women was held on August 9, 2004 in Room 830, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California.

President Davalos called a meeting of the Committee of the Whole to order at 10:07 a.m. The following Commissioners were present for roll call:

President Davalos
Treasurer Duba
Commissioner Creary
Commissioner Gravely
Commissioner Jernigan
Commissioner Lewis
Commissioner Rodriguez

Introduction of the audience followed.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Davalos reported that she attended a Harbor/UCLA Health Fair, an anti-war lecture, and the 90th anniversary celebration of the opening of the Panama Canal. She also attended the Zocalo lecture series at the L.A. Public Library and a premiere of Latino tenors.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Duba reported on the expenditures for the month of July, 2004. The beginning balance for June was \$29,214.58; there were no expenditures; the income was \$142.02; and the ending balance was \$29,356.60.

Commissioners requested arranging a presentation to honor Commissioner Cooperman for her service to the Commission.

STAFF REPORT

Staff reported the following:

- On August 2, 2004 the Board of Supervisors proclaimed August 8-14 as "Community Health Center Week."
- The Commission's international exchange meeting with Member of the European and Hungarian Parliament Ms. Zita Gurmai Ph.D. will be a luncheon at 12:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels.
- The Executive Office is hosting a Brown Act Workshop on Thursday, September 23, 2004 from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon in Room 374A.
- On August 26th at 7:00 p.m. there will be a Women's Equality Day Celebration at Throop Memorial Church in Pasadena.

PRESENTATION ON PELVIC FLOOR DISORDERS

Nora Mendoza, Director of Marketing, U.S.C. Division of Colorectal and Pelvic Floor Surgery, spoke on the problem of pelvic floor disorders, in which the network of muscles and other tissues upholding the pelvic organs tears or weakens, causing those organs to shift, bulge or push against each other. Some of the symptoms associated with these disorders include loss of bowel control, urinary incontinence, and pelvic and rectal pain. She then cited statistics on the incidence of this disorder among women, and highlighted traditional treatment approaches. The U.S.C. Department of Surgery's approach to this problem includes multidisciplinary evaluation and treatment, therapy and the use of advanced imaging. She concluded by emphasizing the need to promote public awareness of this problem. For more information on this subject access the U.S.C. Center for Colorectal and Pelvic Floor Disorders Website, www.surgery.usc.edu/divisions/cr.

President Davalos thanked her for her informative presentation and Treasurer Duba offered to provide a complimentary booth at the 5k health expo for the U.S.C. Center.

UPDATE ON ACTIVITIES OF THE GLENDALE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Pauline Field, Commissioner for the Glendale Commission, spoke on the formation and work of the Glendale Commission on the Status of Women, which held its first meeting earlier this year and meets the second Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at Glendale City Hall. She then described the Commission's mission, budget, vision statement, values, and committees. The Commission is currently focusing on the issues of domestic violence and voting. She went on to emphasize the opportunities women's commissions can have to influence public policy.

President Davalos thanked her for her informative presentation. Treasurer Duba offered to provide a complimentary booth for the Glendale Commission.

DISCUSSION ON HOLDING COMMISSION COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Commissioners discussed holding community meetings again throughout the five Supervisorial Districts. Commissioners from the First District agreed to start off with their district.

(Commissioner Becerra-Jones joined the meeting, constituting a quorum).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Commissioner Jernigan, seconded by Commissioner Creary, and unanimously carried, the minutes of July 12, 2004 and July 26, 2004 were approved.

APPROVE WORKSHOP PROGRAM AND ADDITIONAL EXPENSES

On motion of Commissioner Rodriguez, seconded by Commissioner Creary, and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the workshop program and additional expenses up to \$400, with funds to be used from the 5k account.

APPROVE EXPENSES TO PARTICIPATE IN PACIFIC ASIAN FAMILY EVENT

On motion of Commissioner Jernigan, seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez, and unanimously carried, the Commission approved \$200 for one ticket and one business card advertisement for the Center for the Pacific Asian Family's 26th Anniversary Event, "Nurturing Change Together: Building Community Strength" on September 23, 2004 in Downtown, Los Angeles.

APPROVE BOOTH FEE FOR COMMISSION ON AGING HEALTH FAIR

On motion of Commissioner Creary, seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez, and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the expense of \$25 for the booth fee for the Commission on Aging's Sixth Annual Health Fair and Senior Festival on October 7, 2004 at the Santa Monica Civic Auditorium.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Health Committee

Commissioner Creary reported on the National Links Assembly she attended July 27-30, 2004 in Atlanta, Georgia and presented a copy of "A Woman's Guide to Wellness 2004" for the Commission library. She also commented on press coverage related to the King/Drew Medical Center.

Domestic Violence Subcommittee

Commissioner Rodriguez indicated the subcommittee would submit a letter for the Commission's review and approval which assesses the implementation of recommendations made by a domestic violence report.

Legislative Committee: At the request of President Davalos, Commissioner Jernigan agreed to serve as the interim Legislative Committee Chair.

Education Subcommittee: Commissioner Becerra Jones reported on scheduled activities and anticipated attendance for the Scholarship Education Workshop this evening. Commissioner Jernigan suggested the Commission consider planning fewer activities in one day and displaying voter registration cards at the event.

Media/Public Relations Committee: There was no report.

Older Women's Issues Committee: There was no report.

5K Run/Walk Subcommittee: Treasurer Duba reported on sponsorship for this year's race and announced that the subcommittee would meet this afternoon at 12:30 p.m. Treasurer Duba requested that an update on planning for the 5k event be placed on the next meeting agenda as a separate agenda item.

Retreat Planning Subcommittee: Commissioners Gravely and Becerra-Jones agreed to Co-Chair the subcommittee.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Rone Ellis addressed the Commission.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Rodriguez announced the ICAN/Domestic Violence Task Force Committee meeting on August 28, 2004 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Children's Court in Monterey Park. She also announced a demonstration of "Alice Software," a program used for county shelter bed space notification, on August 27, 2004 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Community and Senior Citizens Department Domestic Violence unit at 3333 Wilshire Blvd.

Commissioner Jernigan reported that the Governor signed the state budget and she further commented on budget cuts that would adversely affect women and children.

Staff reported on Commissioner Creary's participation in the National Medical Association and Auxiliary from August 1-5, 2004 in San Diego. At the event she attended (1) a luncheon on women's health featuring Dr. David Satcher, Dianne Carroll and Harry Belafonte, (2) a presentation on "Brown vs. Board of Education Revisited," and (3) the unofficial unveiling of the National Sickle Cell Stamp.

MATTERS NOT POSTED ON THE AGENDA

Commissioner Rodriguez spoke on a funding request from the City of Los Angeles for domestic violence events. Commissioners requested a presentation on their request.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

COMMISSIONERS

Karin Davalos, President
Reiko Duba, Treasurer
Yolanda Becerra-Jones
Ruth Creary, Ph.D
Wadie Gravely
Ruth Jernigan
Bonnie J. Lewis
Olivia Rodriguez

EXCUSED

Charlotte Lesser, Vice President
Roslyn Cooperman
Yvonne Mariajimenez, Esq.
Lila Morgan
Janet E. Mummey, Esq.
Barbara Perkins

UNEXCUSED

Sophia Esparza

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Executive Office Staff: Khanh Nguyen, Steve Erickson, Twila Kerr, Audra Galang and
Gabriel Alexander
Angel Triola, Office of Affirmative Action Compliance

GUESTS

Rose Borja
Rone Ellis
Pauline Field, Glendale Commission on the Status of Women
Nora Mendoza, U.S.C. Center for Colorectal and Pelvic Floor Surgery